

Attorney's Docket No.: 14759-003001

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested.

The claims are amended herewith to emphasize their patentable distinctions.

Claim 4 is included into claim 1, and also claim 1 is amended to define a cutting line, and a vertically extending corrugated surface. Amended claim 1 defines the cut pieces to be formed into pellets having a predetermined size using a hammer and cutting line, and then machined to have a smooth curved surface when passing through the region along the corrugated surface. This is described in the original English specification page 12 line 16-23 and page 20 lines 18-22.

Claims 7, 4, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 have been canceled in accordance with this amendment.

Previous claim 4 was rejected based on Rota, the admitted prior art and Ionescu. Ionescu, however, does not teach a cutting line and a vertically extending corrugated surface, as claimed. Therefore, the amended claim 1 should be completely patentable over the cited prior art.

New claims 20-23 are added which define that once the cut pieces have entered the Rotary, tubular member, they are conveyed from the upstream end of the Rotary, tubular member to the downstream end, while being heated by the fore kiln and the

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aft kiln. This enables the cut pieces to be heated more efficiently. Moreover, this is described page 14 lines 1-5 and page 18 lines 20-23.

New claims 20-23 define a heating apparatus formed of a rotary kiln including a rotary tubular member, a pair of guides, a drive unit, a fore kiln and an aft kiln. Perry does disclose a heater to remove paint in recycling of scrap metal or cans. However, Perry does not disclose a fore and aft kiln as claimed.

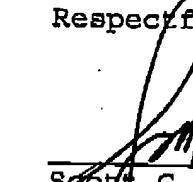
It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

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Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Applicant believes no fee is due however, please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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